

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GAME APPARATUS.

No. 799,848.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. HEISMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

The invention relates to improvements in game apparatus of that description in which are used a game-board and a counter, the progress of the game being indicated by the movement of the counter upon the game-board.

It has for its object to provide means whereby the field game of foot-ball can be simulated to a considerable extent in an indoor game.

It consists, primarily, of a game-board made to represent the field of play of the outdoor game, a counter adapted to be moved back and forth on the game-board, play-indicating balls to direct the movement of the counter on the game-board and divided into groups, according to the character of the plays which they indicate, and a plurality of receptacles for holding the groups of play-indicating balls separate from each other.

The invention further consists in the novel means hereinafter more specifically described, pointed out in the appended claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings, in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a plan view of the game-board. Fig. 2 shows the counter. Fig. 3 shows the measuring device. Fig. 4 shows one of the receptacles for the play-indicating balls. Fig. 5 shows one of the play-indicating balls.

In Fig. 1 is shown the game-board constructed as nearly as it is possible to simulate the field of play used in the outdoor game. Briefly, it is rectangular in outline and is divided by transverse one-yard lines. The latter are numbered from the center of the field toward both ends, the ordinals being placed opposite to the end of every fifth line. The goal-line and the twenty-five-yard lines are designated by suitable inscriptions. On opposite sides of the field the positions of two teams are indicated by the letters "RE," "RT," "RG," &c., respectively, designating the players right end, right tackle, right guard, &c. Extending longitudinally through

the field from goal to goal are two lines of holes A, alternately placed at the one-yard lines. Along one of the edges of the field, at the ends of the one-yard lines, are the holes B. In the center of the field, as at X, is a hole between the lines of holes A, and at the ends of the field holes are placed in the center of the goal-lines.

In Fig. 2 is shown a miniature foot-ball K, provided with a peg adapted to fit the holes A of the game-board. This serves as a counter to mark the progress of the game.

In Fig. 3 is shown a measuring device M, provided with two legs or pins adapted to fit the holes B at the edge of the game-board. The legs are of such a distance apart as to straddle five of the intervals between the one-yard lines. The purpose of this device is to mark the initial position of the counter K in a series of plays and to aid in the measurement of the distance which the counter moves from its initial position during such series of plays.

In Fig. 4 is shown a receptacle N, of opaque material and shaped like a bottle. There are seven of these receptacles, although the number may vary, and on each one is an inscription designating a particular class of plays. The one shown in the drawings has the inscription "Center plays," and the other six have inscriptions, such as "Tackle plays," "End runs," "Tricks," "Punts," "Try-at-goal," and "Kick-off," respectively. For each of the receptacles N are a number of play-indicating balls L of such size as to pass readily one at a time through the mouth of its particular receptacle, which is suitably shaped for the purpose. Each receptacle and the play-indicating balls that it is adapted to contain are colored alike and are colored differently from any other receptacle and its play-indicating balls. By means of the similarity in color the play-indicating balls can be readily placed in their proper receptacle. For an example, the receptacle and ball shown in the drawings may be colored red. The number of balls for each receptacle depends upon the number of plays used under the particular heading inscribed on the receptacle. The balls are consecutively numbered, and each, according to its number, designates a particular play. For an instance, the ball shown in the drawings is numbered "5," and consequently designates the play with the same number under the heading "Center plays."